



Black Farmers and the 2020 Census (Not the Agricultural Census)

When you hear the word “census”, two things probably come to mind: USDA’s Agricultural Census that will happen in 2022 and the **2020 Census (decennial census) that ends on September 30th**. Both are critical to the Black farming community, but at this point, the **2020 Census must be a priority** to ensure that our communities have their fair share of resources and political power over the next decade.

A Tale of Two Censuses

2020 Census (Decennial Census)	Agricultural Census
Conducted by the Census Bureau .	Conducted by the USDA .
Happens every 10 years .	Happens every 5 years .
Counts every person living in the U.S	Counts U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them.
Allocates \$1.5 trillion in federal funding each year for education, healthcare, disaster recovery, and more.	Looks at production practices, income and expenditures.
Distributes political power through the apportionment of Congressional seats and the redrawing of political districts.	Looks at land use, land ownership, and operator characteristics.
Ends on September 30, 2020.	Starts in 2022.

- As the 2020 Census winds down, **Black populations and rural communities in Georgia are at risk of being undercounted**, costing our communities billions of dollars in federal resources for education, healthcare, our schools, hospitals, libraries, safety net programs—even for the roads and bridges we drive on.
- With less time, the 2020 Census will have to rely more on administrative records, proxy interviews and a statistical process called imputation, which have **historically resulted in the undercounting of Black, Latinx, immigrant, and refugee communities**.
- Georgia has some of the lowest response rates in the country, in part because our hardest to count areas of the state in Middle and South Georgia have the worst performing Area Census Office in the country—with a workload completion rate of 35% with only three weeks left to finish counting every household.
- **We need you** to spread the message to your family and friends that the **census ends on September 30th**, but they should respond NOW: online at **my2020census.gov**; by phone at **1-844-330-2020**; or filling out the paper form that should have been delivered to your home.
- Then, visit **FairCount.org** to learn more and to get involved.

